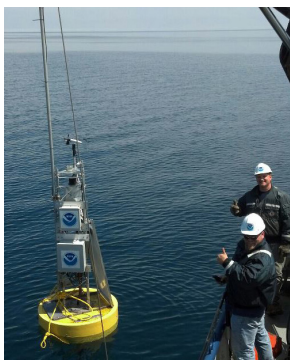




Accountability, Education, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication, and Partnerships

funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan requires oversight, monitoring, assessment, and coordination to succeed. NOAA is contributing to these needs by establishing a coordinated network of scientific observations, educating the next generation of Great Lakes citizens, and providing information for decision makers about the impacts of climate change. These projects are helping provide the scientific data, education, and collaboration necessary to sustain this investment in Great Lakes restoration.



Implementing a Great Lakes Observing and Response System

NOAA's Great Lakes Synthesis, Observations, and Response System (SOAR) coordinates and integrates coastal ecosystem observations that support Great Lakes restoration

projects, including AOC restoration. GLRI funds have been integral to developing and honing the system, which uses scientific models and observations from on-water and remote sensing platforms to create database products for assessment and decision support. SOAR is focused on Areas of Concern and restoration projects within the Great Lakes. However, its value extends far beyond the region, since SOAR observations feed into a global observation network.

Coordinated Science and Monitoring Initiative Support for Lakes Huron and Michigan

NOAA is supporting the Coordinated Science and Monitoring Initiative (CMSI) efforts in Lakes Huron (2012) and Michigan (2015). The CMSI seeks to clarify the impacts of stressors such as invasive species, climate change, nutrient loading, and overfishing. The project will provide researchers and policymakers with a more holistic understanding of the lake ecosystems and enable them to improve management of the lakes in the face of ecosystem stressors.

Enhancing Climate Change Information and Creating Resilient Communities

GLRI funds have helped NOAA to become a leader in climate change research, outreach, and education in the Great Lakes. Multiple climate initiatives support climate research, adaptation, and resiliency plans for the Great Lakes Region. We believe that regional partnerships are vital to encouraging adaptation and planning through the Great Lakes Region, and over 30 diverse partners have been involved in NOAA's Climate Project initiatives to date.

Supporting Great Lakes Clean Marina Efforts

Michigan Sea Grant will facilitate outreach and education leading to implementation of on-the-ground Clean Marina certification efforts in the Great Lakes region. Participants work with technical experts and outreach professionals to find common ground on best management practices. Approximately 36 marinas in the Great Lakes region will be certified or re-certified during the project period.



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